

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 OMB-01 IO-13 RSR-01 /117 W
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R 090930 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2602
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 3974

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IR, IZ

SUBJECT: IRANIAN RELATIONS WITH IRAQ

1. DURING AMEETING WITH MINISTER OF COURT ALAM ON ANOTHER MATTER, THE AMBASSADOR MENTIONED THERE HAD BEEN MUCH SPECULATION RECENTLY THAT DEPUTY MINISTER FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS FARTAKH WAS NOT ILL AS REPORTED BUT WAS IN BAGHDAD IN FURTHER PURSUIT OF TALKS INITIATED BY FOREIGN MINISTER KHALATBARI IN GENEVA (TEHRAN 2990). ALAM SAID THIS WAS NOT TRUE. NO TALKS WERE GOING ON AND NONE APPEARED LIKELY IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

2. IN RESPONSE TO THE AMBASSADOR' S QUERY AS TO WHETHER IRAN AND IRAQ MIGHT NOT TACKLE SOME OF THEIR LESS PRICKLY PROBLEMS NOW AND LEAVE THE TOUGHER ONES FOR SOME TIME IN THE FUTURE, ALAM SAID THAT THIS WAS THE COURSE HE PREFERRED BUT THE SHAH DISAGREED. THE SHAH HAD DECIDED TO PLAY IT TOUGH FOR THE MOMENT AND INSIST ON IRAQI ACCEPTANCE OF DRAWING THEIR COMMON
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BORDER DOWN THE MIDDLE OF THE SHATT AL- ARAB. IF IRAQ WAS WILLING TO DO THIS THEN THEY COULD GET ON TO OTHER QUESTIONS. ALAM DID NOT THINK THAT THIS WAS LIKELY TO HAPPEN IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

3. IN REFLECTING ON IRAQ' S RELATIONS WITH THE USSR, ALAM SAID THAT HE PERSONALLY FELT THE IRAQIS WERE TRYING TO PUT A BIT OF LIGHT BETWEEN THEMSELVES AND THE SOVIETS. RECENT IRAQI OIL DEAG AND NON- RENEWAL OF CONTRACTS WITH THE USSR WERE CITED AS EXAMPLES. ALAM SAID, HOWEVER, THE SHAH DID NOT SHARE THIS VIEW AND THAT HE FELT IRAQ WAS TOTALLY COMMITTED TO THE SOVIETS WHETHER THEY LIKED IT OR NOT.
HELMS

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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